

## ATTORNEY GENERAL GIVES AWARD TO BURBANK MHET

By Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige, Public Information Officer II



On Thursday, July 25, 2013, the State Attorney General Kamala Harris recognized the ground-breaking efforts and accomplishments of the Burbank Mental Health Evaluation Team (BMHET) with a prestigious Award of Commendation. BMHET is a collaboration of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) and the Burbank Police Department.

"We're celebrating heroes today," said Harris to the audience. She thanked the police officers and sheriff's deputies for "doing what they do... protecting the community."

The awards were given out to law enforcement as well as non-uniformed citizens who have helped make the community safer. Recipients were nominated in order to be considered for the awards. The ceremony took place at the end of the Attorney General's Zone 1 Meeting for Los Angeles and Orange counties at the Los Angeles Police Department's Ronald Deaton Auditorium in downtown.



BMHET members honored with the Award of Commendation included: Chief Scott Lachasse, Captain Denis Cremins, Captain Mike Albanese, Officer Kristiana Sanchez, Officer Adam Adler and Jennifer Hunt, Psy.D. Two BMHET members (Officer Scott Moody and Sergeant Mike Parrinello) were not present at the award ceremony.

BMHET is a specialized team that triages incidents, frees up police resources to handle other non-mental health calls and provides follow-up and long-term care for affected individuals. Attorney General Harris told the team that she appreciate their hard work and for watching over the community. "It's truly a model... Thank you!"

"On behalf of the Burbank Police Department, it's been a great team effort with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health and Burbank Police," stated Officer Adam Adler. "We've helped a lot of people... and we appreciate the acknowledgement. We're honored to get this award."